

SECRET

OSA 3009-68

3 October 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Special Activities

SUBJECT : Deputy for Operations Response to Referenced Memorandum

REFERENCE : Draft of Memo for DD/S&T, Subject: Agency Role in Overhead Reconnaissances and Other Aerial Activities

1. The referenced draft is well done, however, the following suggested changes keyed to the draft paragraphs are submitted for your final consideration for inclusion in response to the D/DCI/NIPÉ memorandum.

2. Comments on reference by paragraph:

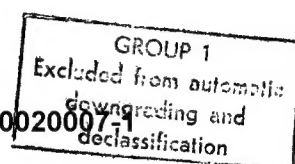
- a. Para 1 - No change suggested.
- b. Para 2 - No change suggested.
- c. Para 3 Suggested new paragraph:

"The Agency has demonstrated by performance during the past 12 years the expertise necessary to identify, develop and operate aircraft reconnaissance programs that have proven responsive in support of national intelligence requirements. Currently, the Agency is providing development management of the U-2R [] and has in the past been charged with the leadership role in the development efforts of the high performance reconnaissance platform (A-12). CIA success in providing development leadership of these aircraft reconnaissance systems for the most part is due to its inherent flexibility and unique streamlined method of management. Specialized requirements have allowed the Agency to concentrate on product development without the usual myriad of bureaucratic approval mechanisms."

OK

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d. Para 4 - Suggested new paragraph:

"The principal case for continued Agency operation of a covert manned aircraft reconnaissance program is that a program of this nature provides the U. S. Government with another intelligence gathering option, that of a quick reacting capability to gather timely intelligence without the charge of military aggression being sustained. It enables the U. S. Government to operate in the espionage arena with the assertion that the operation is truly civilian in character and is operating for the purpose of satisfying U. S. intelligence requirements which by nature are usually not aggressive. It provides both the U. S. Government and the protesting government time and opportunity to negotiate quietly behind the scenes without overtones of military confrontation."

OK

e. Para 5 - No change suggested.

f. Para 6 - Delete reference to "more" since this invites rebuttal.

OK

g. Para 7 - Delete last sentence of paragraph because supporting an assertion of this type would be difficult to achieve.

OK

h. Para 8 - No change suggested.

i. Para 9 - Possibly we should attempt to define duplication of functions by OSA and ORD and make a stronger case for new OSA management of the SOD function.

leave
our 9
as is.

3. This memorandum is intended to be constructive in nature and should not be interpreted as lack of agreement to the basic thoughts advanced in the referenced draft.

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[Redacted Signature Box]

WILLIAM E. SHELTON

Colonel, USAF

Deputy for Operations, OSA

Pro
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SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

Deputy for Operations/OSA

EXTENSION

5733

NO.

OSA 3009-68

DATE

4 October 1968

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

D/SA

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